

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-11 L-03 INR-10 CG-00 DOTE-00 COA-02

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EA/ANZ - MR. MACCALLUM

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R 051524Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO CNO WASH DC

NAVELEXSYSCOM PME-119

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI CAMP SMITH

CINCPACREP CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: MARR, AS, US

SUBJECT: PROJECT OMEGA: AUSTRALIAN QUESTION ON U.S.

FUNDING FOR LORAN

REF: CANBERRA 5276

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. THE LORAN-A AND LORAN-C SYSTEMS WERE CONSTRUCTED BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD AND PAID FOR BY THE USG. SOME LORAN STATIONS ARE NOW OPERATED BY THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY ARE LOCATED. IN THE UNITED STATES, OPERATING LORAN STATIONS ARE FUNDED AND OPERATED BY THE COAST GUARD, WHICH IS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, A CIVILIAN AGENCY OF THE USG.

2. LORAN WAS AN ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP AN INTERNATIONAL LONG-RANGE AID TO NAVIGATION, IN WHICH THE U.S. HAS LONG BEEN A LEADER. OMEGA IS A FURTHER STEP WHICH, FOR THE FIRST TIME, WILL PROVIDE WORLDWIDE COVERAGE FOR CIVILIAN

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NAVIGATION. AS WITH LORAN, THE USG IS PROVIDING THE BASIC

EQUIPMENT AND PARTICIPATING IN FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION
COSTS OF OMEGA STATIONS.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD RESPOND TO AUSTRALIAN QUESTION ON LORAN
REPORTED REFTEL ALONG LINES PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS. IF
ASKED FURTHER ABOUT DOD ADMINISTRATION OF LORAN AND OMEGA

CONSTRUCTION FUNDS, EMBASSY MAY RESPOND THAT DOD AS
DEVELOPER OF THESE SYSTEMS HAD UNIQUE EXPERTISE AND
ABILITY TO SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION. HOWEVER, CIVILIAN
CHARACTER OF THESE NAVIGATIONAL AIDS IN U.S. IS
DEMONSTRATED BY COAST GUARD OPERATION WHICH IS ALREADY IN
FULL EFFECT FOR LORAN SYSTEM AND NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED
FOR OMEGA. RUSH

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